

To Whom it May Concern,

I vehemently oppose every one of the proposed anti-firearm laws that Governor Lamont has presented in this latest attempt by Connecticut Democrats to trample on the rights of law abiding citizens of this state.

Anti-gun legislators all over, and especially in Connecticut, seem to operate like classic hoarders. They obsessively “collect” new laws and regulations. They try to convince everyone of the value, effectiveness, and the necessity of each new item. Existing laws on the books are ignored. They aren’t enforced to any useful end. The new laws become the clutter you see in a hoarder’s home, ultimately causing danger and harm until they are thrown in the dumpster. All the while, true victims of gun violence, and true opportunities to stop it, are ignored and forgotten. The actual perpetrators of gun violence remain on the streets, ready, willing and able to commit crime again – virtually unpunished.

The governor proposes to ban forearm braces, the transfer of pre-ban “assault weapons”, by “closing loopholes” (which by the way were created by the legislature’s own ignorance in 2013), change carry laws (show your papers – stop and frisk), stem the flow of ghost guns, create red flag laws that stifle a citizen’s right to due process and self defense, and more. These typical anti-2A talking points make the rounds regularly in our country and they have been proven to be a waste of time, ineffective and are obstacles to true crime prevention and justice.

Connecticut Democrats’ very own recent anti-Police and anti-Law and order policies resulted in unprecedented spikes in violent crime, which directly drove tens-of-thousands of ordinary citizens to the conclusion that they had to take their safety into their own hands. The government was no longer willing or capable, or both, of providing protection to its populace. This led to a massive spike in firearms sales, especially to first-time buyers, including many women and minorities. The trend cannot be denied. And now, reminiscent of a twisted Munchausen syndrome case, the legislature is considering action against these people under the guise of “more firearms equals more crime...we have to do something...we will solve this problem...”. How disingenuous. How despicable.

It is quite obvious that the State willfully ignores existing opportunities to actually reduce criminal gun violence. FBI statistics show, for many years - in a consistent pattern, that the vast majority of gun related deaths (90%) are a result of street gang activity and suicide. If the state truly wants to reduce gun violence and the rate of firearms related deaths, it knows exactly where to apply resources. It simply chooses not to. Instead, the State continually beats the same, loud, annoying, useless mantras that get headlines but NEVER deliver any results, always at the expense of law abiding residents. Advancement of political, or party, position seems to always trump any service to the constituency.

It is beyond time for Connecticut to clean house and rid itself of the clutter and waste, to make room for a new effective approach to actually solve problems without ANY further encroachment on the rights of citizens. I urge you, as a representative of the people of Connecticut, to stop posturing and start upholding our constitution and begin to truly work for the people who put you in your position.

The recent invasion of Ukraine, by Russia, is providing stark verification of how critical it was for our founders to have foreseen the importance of an armed populace. Let us pray that the 500 million firearms and nearly 14 trillion rounds of ammo, that are sitting in the USA, never have to be put to use as such weapons are being used in Eastern Europe now. But we must not block our ability to be prepared to defend ourselves against ANY threat, be it individual or Government.

I ask you to reject Senate Bill 16.

In addition, I also **OPPOSE** H.B. No. 5416 – AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.

**ISUPPORT** Raised S.B. No. 388 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE.

**ISUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5415 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.

**ISUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5412 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

Sincerely,

Alex Stanek,  
Milford, CT